(b) A Joint Team had been constituted with the technical experts from Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Water Resources and ICAR to assess the extent of affected areas under coastal salinity in selected States. Based on the recommendations of the Joint Team report, pilot projects are being prepared in consultation with ICAR.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Rechannelisation of agricultural resources

3286. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to rechannelise available resources allocated for agriculture from one of "support-measures" to one of asset creation;

(b) whether any schedule has been drawn up to rechannelise the allocation into this kind of stream;

(c) if so, what would be the immediate change envisaged;

(d) whether there is any proposal to revamp many existing programmes which have not met the test of success over the last four decades; and

(e) the details thereof and the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The National Agriculture Policy has envisaged that the resource allocation regime will be reviewed with a view to rechannelising the available resources from support measures towards asset formation in rural sector.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) There is a proposal to integrate 27 existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes and pool the Central assistance provided to States/UTs under them into one Scheme to Supplement/Complement State efforts for development of agriculture. Under the Scheme, Central assistance to States, will be provided on the basis of their Work Plans, formulated through mutual consultations, which will comprise specific interventions of State's priority. The proposal will provide the needed flexibility to the States in revamping the existing programmes.